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Westminster, November 21.

HIS Majesty came this Day to the House of Peers, and being in His Royal Robes seated on the Throne, with the usual Solemnity, Sir William Oldes, Gentleman-Usher of the Black-Rod, was sent with a Message from His Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, His Majesty was pleased to make the following most Gracious Speech to both Houses.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Am very glad I have been able to bring the Sitting of Parliament into a more proper and usual Season of the Year: I hope such an early Meeting will not only be a Benefit to the Publick, but a Convenience to your private Affairs.

As I have always had at Heart the Security and Ease of my People; so I never kept up any Troops but for their Protection, and have taken every Opportunity to disband as many as I thought consistent with their Safety. I have reduced the Army to very near one half since the beginning of the last Session of Parliament, and lessened them to such a Number as will neither be a Burthen to my good Subjects, nor an Encouragement to our Enemies to insult them.

You cannot but be sensible of the many Attempts which have been set on foot to disturb the Peace of Europe, and of these Kingdoms: They only pretend not to see, who are not afraid of them. But as no Application has been wanting on my Part to preserve the publick Tranquillity; I have the Pleasure to find my good Offices have not been altogether Unsuccessful, and have Reason to hope they will, in the End, have their full and desired Effect.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I question not but you are very well pleased to find, that your Endeavours for lessening the National Debts, have at the same Time raised the Publick Credit; and that whatever was proposed for that End, is actually and completely effected. This Success must chiefly be attributed to that just and prudent Regard you have shewn to Parliamentary Engagements.

It was with the View of procuring and settling a lasting Tranquillity, that I demanded the extraordinary Supply which you granted me last Session. The Credit which this Confidence reposed in me hath given us Abroad, has already been so far effectual, that I can acquaint you we have a much better Prospect than we had. I have ordered an Account to be laid before you of the very small Part of that Supply which as yet has been expended; any farther Issues that may be made of it shall be also laid before you: And you may be assured, that every Part of it shall either be employed for your Service, or saved to the Publick.

I have ordered to be laid before you a State of the Deficiencies of the present Year, and the several Estimates for the Service of the next, which you will find considerably diminished. I rely upon your making the necessary Provision for them; not doubting of the Continuance of that Zeal for the Good of your Country, which hath been so eminently conspicuous in every Session of this Parliament.

I cannot, in Justice, avoid putting you in mind, that several Arrears of Pay and Subsidy, incurred before my Accession to the Crown, are claimed by Foreign Princes and States: I shall order them to be laid before you, to the End you may put them in a Method of being examined and stated; which will very much tend to the Honour and Credit of the Nation.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I could heartily wish, that at a Time when the Common Enemies of our Religion are, by all Manner of Artifices, endeavouring to undermine and weaken it both at Home and Abroad, all those who are Friends to our present happy Establishment, might unanimously concur in some proper Method for the greater strengthning the Protestant Interest; of which, as the Church of England is unquestionably the main Support and Bulwark, so will she reap the principal Benefit of every Advantage accruing by the Union and mutual Charity of all Protestants.

As none can recommend themselves more effectually to my Favour and Countenance than by a sincere Zeal for the just Rights of the Crown, and the Liberties of the People; so I am determined to encourage all those who act agreeably to the Constitution of these my Kingdoms, and consequently to the Principles on which my Government is founded.

The Eyes of all Europe are upon you at this Critical Juncture: It is your Interest, for which Reason I think it mine, that my Endeavours for procuring the Peace and Quiet of Christendom should take Effect. Nothing can so much contribute to this desirable End, as Unanimity, Dispatch, and Vigour of your Resolutions for the Support of my Government.

Genoa, Nov. 16. This Day came in a Felucca dispatched by the Marquese de Rubi, Viceroy of Sardinia, who is hourly expected in another Felucca: This has brought Advice, that the Town and Castle of Alguero surrendred to the Spaniards on the 28th of October, and Castel Arragonese on the 30th, both on the same Capitulation as Cagliari. The Letters add, that 4000 of the Spaniards were to be left on the Island of Sardinia, and the rest to be imbarked for Catalonia.

Dublin, Nov. 14. The Packets which arrived here this Morning having brought the happy News of her Royal Highness's being safe delivered of a Prince, the same was received here with all suitable Demonstrations of Joy. Orders were immediately given for the Cannon to be discharged; and for the three Regiments quartered here to draw out, and to fire Volleys. The Evening concluded with Bonfires, Illuminations, and a Ball at the Castle.

Whitehall, Nov. 22. His Majesty has been pleased to appoint William Dalrymple, Esq; Sir John Swinton, Sir James Smallet, and Sir Patrick Johnston, Barts. Alexander Abercrombie, Patrick Campbell, and Robert Johnston, Esqs; Commissioners of the Equivalent.

By Order of the Right Honourable the Earl of Suffolk and Bindon, Deputy Earl Marshal of England.

The Post-Boy of Thursday the 14th of this Instant November, giving an Account, That on the Monday preceding, the Corps of Francis Tyssen, Esq; lay in State at Goldsmiths-Hall, in so grand and compleat a Manner as had not been seen before, and that on the Monday following, lying in State all that Day, was carried in great Procession, with four of the King's Trumpets, &c. with

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